

Capsule Summary

SM-811

Tenant House #2 at Clark's Rest

Leonardtown vicinity

Private

circa 1900

In the aftermath of the Civil War, agricultural tenancy took on an added importance in the region's agricultural economy. In order to work the expansive acreage of some farms, planters erected tenant houses on the periphery of their plantations to accommodate workers and their families. Tenant House #2 was probably erected for this purpose around 1900. The dwelling is a modest one-and-a-half story, three bay house with an interesting abbreviated cross gable. Standing on the eastern margins of the large farm called Clark's Rest, the house is one of three situated in close proximity to one another on the north side of Maryland Route 5. SM-810 lies to the east of this house and another one-and-a-half story dwelling lies to the north (The third dwelling was not documented due to the presence of thick undergrowth that surrounds the resource.). All three of these houses, their relationship to the main farm, and the tenants, farmers, and planters that occupied them should all be researched further.

Inventory No. SM-811

1. Name of Property

(indicate preferred name)

historic

other

Tenant House #2 at Clark's Rest

2. Location

street and number N side of Md. Rt. 5 approx. ¾ of a mile W of Leonardtown

not for publication

city, town Leonardtown

_____ vicinity

county St. Mary's

3. Owner of Property

(give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name	George E. Clarke, Trustee
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street and number PO Box 330

telephone	N/a
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city, town	Leonardtown
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state Md

zip code 20650-0330

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse

tax map and parcel TM-127, P-514

city, town	Leonardtown
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liber	EWA 1153	folio 327
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5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

[illegible]

7. Description

Inventory No. SM-811

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Tenant House #2 at Clark's Rest is located on the north side of Maryland Route 5 approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile west of Leonardtown, Maryland. Situated in close proximity to the road, the house is approached via a short drive that actually proceeds in front of the dwelling and to the north. Oriented on an east/west axis, the house lies at the western margins of the large farm called Clark's Rest. The house is currently vacant and in exceptionally deteriorated condition. The property is bounded by a wooded tract to the west, agricultural parcels to the north, a residential lot to the east, and by the road to the south.

Constructed circa 1900, Tenant House #2 at Clark's Rest is a one-and-a-half story, three bay, frame dwelling with a gable roof and one story rear ell. A centrally located stove flue is situated in the middle of the gable roof and an interior brick flue is located in the ell. Asbestos shingles clad the exterior walls of the house. Due to the advanced deterioration of the house, the roofing material of the house remains uncertain although remnants of black felt paper are evident.

The primary or east elevation consists of a centrally located door flanked on either side by a six-over-six, double-hung sash window. The door is shaded by a screened-in porch supported by square posts. Immediately above the porch roof is an abbreviated cross gable.

The south elevation consists of the gable end of the main block and side of the rear ell. The main block is pierced in the attic story by a six-over-six window, while the ell exhibits a window opening that has since deteriorated.

Other elevations were not investigated.

8. Significance

Inventory No. SM-811

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

In the aftermath of the Civil War, agricultural tenancy took on an added importance in the region's agricultural economy. In order to work the expansive acreage of some farms, planters erected tenant houses on the periphery of the plantation to accommodate workers and their families. Tenant House #2 was probably erected for this purpose probably around 1900. The dwelling is a modest one-and-a-half story, three bay house with an interesting abbreviated cross gable. Standing on the eastern margins of the large farm called Clark's Rest, the house is one of three situated in close proximity to one another on the north side of Maryland Route 5. SM-810 lies to the east of this house and another one-and-a-half story dwelling lies to the north (The third dwelling was not documented due to the presence of thick undergrowth that surrounds the resource.). All three of these houses, their relationship to the main farm, and the tenants, farmers, and planters that occupied them should all be researched further.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. SM-811

Hammett, Regina Combs. History of St. Mary's County, Maryland: 1634-1990. Ridge, Md: Self-published, 1994.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1 acre
Acreage of historical setting 178 acres
Quadrangle name Leonardtown

Quadrangle scale: 1:24 000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is bounded by a wooded tract to the west, agricultural parcels to the north, a residential lot to the east, and by the road to the south. A more specific description of the properties boundaries can be found in St. Mary's County Land Records Liber EWA 1153, Folio 327.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	St. Mary's County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	August, 2000
street & number	22740 Washington Street	telephone	301-475-4662
city or town	Leonardtown	state	Maryland

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



Tenant House #2 at Clark's Rest
Leonardtown
St. Mary's County
Leonardtown Quad

Camp Maria



511-811

Tenant House #2 at Clark's Rest

4th floor

1st floor

2nd floor

3rd floor

Looking N

Left